

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or §103. Claims 1-6, 8-10, 13-15 and 17-20 have been amended. Applicants believe that the rejections have been overcome.

More specifically, claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 10-14 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,405,371 ("Oosterhout"); claims 5, 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of Oosterhout and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,561,708 ("Remillard"); and claims 3, 6, 9, 15, 17 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of Oosterhout. As previously discussed, a number of claims have been amended. In view of same, Applicants believe that the claimed invention is distinguishable over the cited art, even if combinable.

Of the pending claims at issue, claims 1, 8, 9, 10, 19 and 20 are the sole independent claims. Claim 1 recites an information processing apparatus which produces information that supplements television broadcast programs. The apparatus includes symbolic label forming means which forms symbolic labels indicative of the content of the information; relation data forming means that forms relation data that shows which program the information supplements; and transmission means which transmits the information, symbolic labels and the relation data. Independent claim 8 recites an information processing method which produces information that supplements broadcast programs. The method includes forming symbolic labels that are indicative of the content of the information; forming relation data that shows which program the information supplements; and transmitting the information, symbolic labels and relation data.

Independent claim 9 recites a medium which operates on a computer to run an operation program which implements the information processing for producing information which supplements television broadcast programs. The operation program includes the operational steps of forming symbolic labels indicative of the content of the information; forming relation data that shows which program said information supplements; and transmitting the information, symbolic labels and relation data. Independent claim 10 recites an information processing apparatus which receives and processes information which supplements television broadcast programs, symbolic labels indicative of the content of the information and relation data that shows which program the information supplements. The apparatus includes reception means

which receives the information, symbolic labels and the relation data; display control means which operations on a display device to display the information, the symbolic labels and the relation data; and output control means which operates in response to the operation of selection of the symbolic label to release data corresponding to the selected symbolic label.

Independent claim 19 recites an information processing method which receives and processes information that supplements television broadcast programs, symbolic labels indicative of the content of the information, and relation data that shows which program the information supplements. The method includes receiving the information, symbolic labels and the relation data; controlling a display device to display the information, the symbolic labels and the relation data; and controlling, in response to the operation of selection of symbolic label, the release of data of the information that corresponds to the selected symbolic label. Independent claim 20 recites a medium which operates on a computer to run an operation program for receiving and possessing information which supplements television broadcast programs, symbolic labels indicative of the content of the information, and relation data that shows which program the information supplements. The operation program includes receiving the information, symbolic labels and the relation data; controlling a display device to display the information, the symbolic labels and the relation data; and controlling in response to the operation of selection of a symbolic label, the release of the information that corresponds to the selected symbolic label. Support for the amended claims can be found in the Specification, for example, on page 19 at line 10 to page 20 at line 22.

Applicants believe that the cited art, even if combinable, is distinguishable from the claimed invention. With respect to the primary Oosterhout reference, the emphasis relates to a television receiver that allegedly displays a mosaic image with sub-images that represent the available programs. The receiver further receives an electronic program guide with program descriptions. See, Oosterhout, Abstract. In contrast, the claimed invention provides information which supplements broadcast programs, including symbolic labels indicative of the content of the information, and relation data that identifies which program the information supplements as presently amended. This enables TV viewers to have easy and ready access to information that pertains to a main broadcast program, for example. See, specification, page 2, lines 17-20.

As illustrated in Figure 2, for example, data from the supplemental broadcast includes a video part (symbolic image) S-1 which forms a symbolic label for a supplemental program #1, a video part S-2 which forms a symbolic label for a supplemental program #2, a video part S-3 which forms a symbolic label for a supplemental program #3, control data, access restrict flag, local ground-wave channel information, a video part (supplemental program image) V-1 and audio part (supplemental program sound) A-1 of the supplemental program #1, and other suitable data. See, specification, page 19, line 16 to page 20, line 6. As further illustrative of the claimed invention, the symbolic label of the supplemental program can be displayed together with main programs of multiple ground-wave broadcast channels. For example, a symbolic label which is displayed together with a main program of a ground-wave channel A can also be displayed together with a main program of another ground-wave channel B. However, if main programs of channels A and B have different sponsors, it is not desirable to display a symbolic label of a supplemental program for one channel A (B) of one sponsor together with a main program of another channel B (A) of another sponsor. In regard, the capital IRD unit 5 can implement display control for addressing this situation, such as by filtering of the symbolic symbols and supplemental programs. See, specification, page 20, lines 10-22. For at least these reasons, Applicants believe that Oosterhout, on its own, is clearly deficient with respect to the claimed invention.

Further, Applicants do not believe that the Patent Office can rely solely on the Remillard reference to remedy the deficiencies of Oosterhout. Indeed, the Patent Office merely relies on the Remillard reference for its purported teaching regarding printing data adapted for print out so as to allow the user to obtain a hard copy of the information presented on television. See, Office Action, page 7. Therefore, Applicants do not believe that one skilled in the art would be inclined to modify the cited art to arrive at the claimed invention.

Based on at least these reasons, Applicants believe that the cited art fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited art, even if combinable, fails to anticipate or render obvious the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the anticipation and obviousness rejections be withdrawn.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the present application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit reconsideration of same.

Respectfully submitted,

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